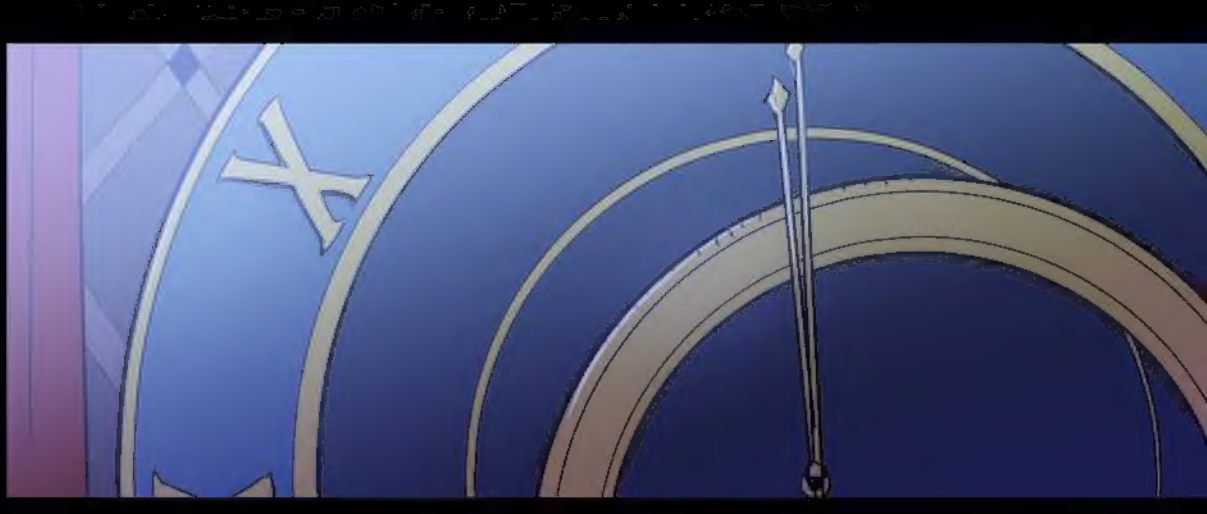
...THIS CAN'T GO ON.

I KEEP HEARING THE SAME WARNINGS IN MY HEAD.

THIS IS THE LINE. IF THIS LINE IS CROSSED, I WON'T BE ABLE TO...



...PUT THIS MASK...

BLOOD BANK

second chapter
masquerade

– play 26 –

I CAN'T TRUST YOU ANY MORE.

...EH?

SHELL'S OFFICE.
A FEW HOURS AGO.

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

EVER SINCE WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER, IT'S HAPPENED...

TWICE!

TWO! TIMES!

TAP

EXHIBIT A

YOU'VE TOLD SOMEONE!

EXHIBIT B

TAP

AHH...

WELL I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE AND...

YES, YOU DID!

NOW I UNDERSTAND. YOU JUST DON'T GET IT.

SLIDE

WHICH IS WHY...

...I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GO TO NEXT WEEK'S PARTY WITH YOU.

WHAT?!

THE VAMPIRE THAT ORCHESTRATED THIS IS GOING TO BE THERE.

I CAN'T LET YOU GO THERE BY YOURSELF, WHEN YOU'RE SO LACKING.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT, ONE.

I'VE BEEN GOING TO THESE PARTIES FOR AGES...

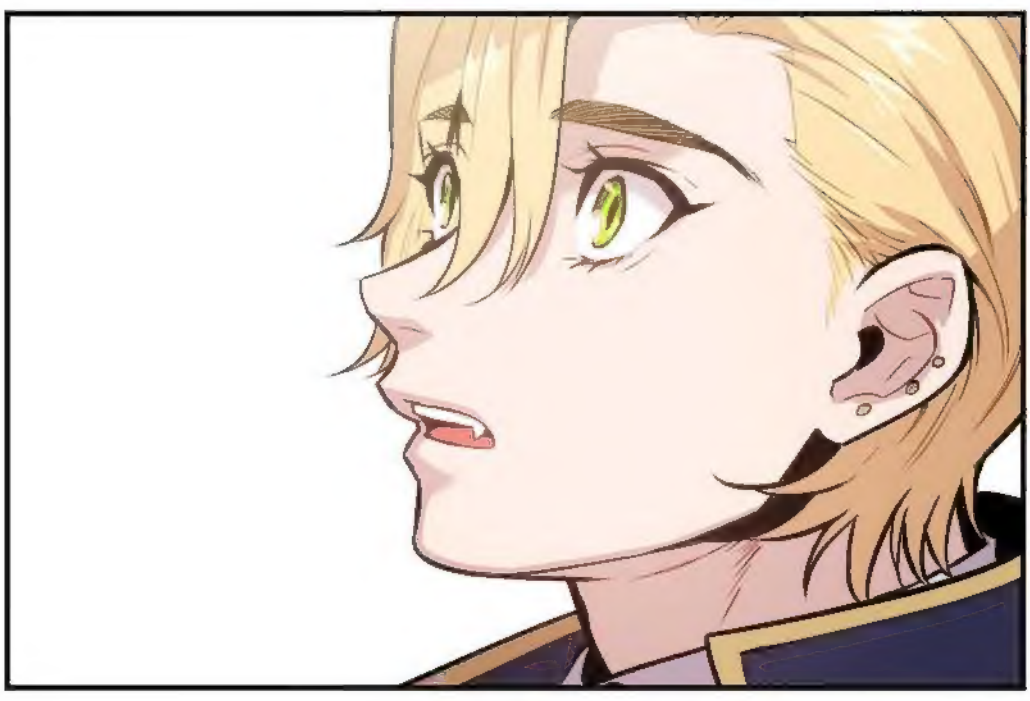
YOU TOLD ME TO STAY WITH YOU FOREVER.

...HUH?

....

AS YOUR MASTER, I...

...I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.



POOF

UGH, TO THINK I'D NEED TO SAY THAT...

H-HE SAID HE WANTS TO...

NO... EVEN SO, IT'S GOING TO BE DIFFICULT...

DID YOU MEAN WHAT YOU SAID?

VAMPIRES NORMALLY TAKE ARTS TO THEIR PARTIES...

AS YOU KNOW...

IS IT IMPOSSIBLE THEN?

WELL, TECHNICALLY IT'S POSSIBLE...

?

...

AS LONG AS I'M NOT TAKING A BANKER...

HUH?

ERK...
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY GO SHOPPING AFTER CUTTING OFF LIKE THAT?
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
IS THAT TOO MUCH? I WAS HOLDING BACK...

HOLDING BACK...

AH, HE'S THAT KINDA GUY...

AH, WE'RE HERE!

VIOLET VELVET

ART SPECIALTY SHOP.

THEY HAVE EVERYTHING. FROM CLOTHES TO TOYS.

NEARLY EVERYTHING I USE IS FROM THIS PLACE.

LET'S GO~

WHAT?!

W-WHY WOULD I...?!

DING~

WELCOME.

OH?

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, MASTER SHELL.

WORSE THAN THE PLAY ROOM

HOW MAY I HELP YOU? THE NEW ITEMS ARE THIS WAY...

?!

NO, THAT'S FINE.

I WANT YOU TO GET ME SOME CLOTHES FOR THIS BANKER.

VERY WELL~

A BANKER? HOW ODD...

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? COME HERE.

W-WAIT...

HM~

YOU'RE PRETTY TALL, FOR A HUMAN. THERE WON'T BE MANY...

...CLOTHES TO FIT YOU SINCE MOST ARTS ARE IN THEIR TEENS...

YOU. HOW DID YOU CATCH THE YOUNG MASTER'S EYE?

YOU'RE A LUCKY ONE.

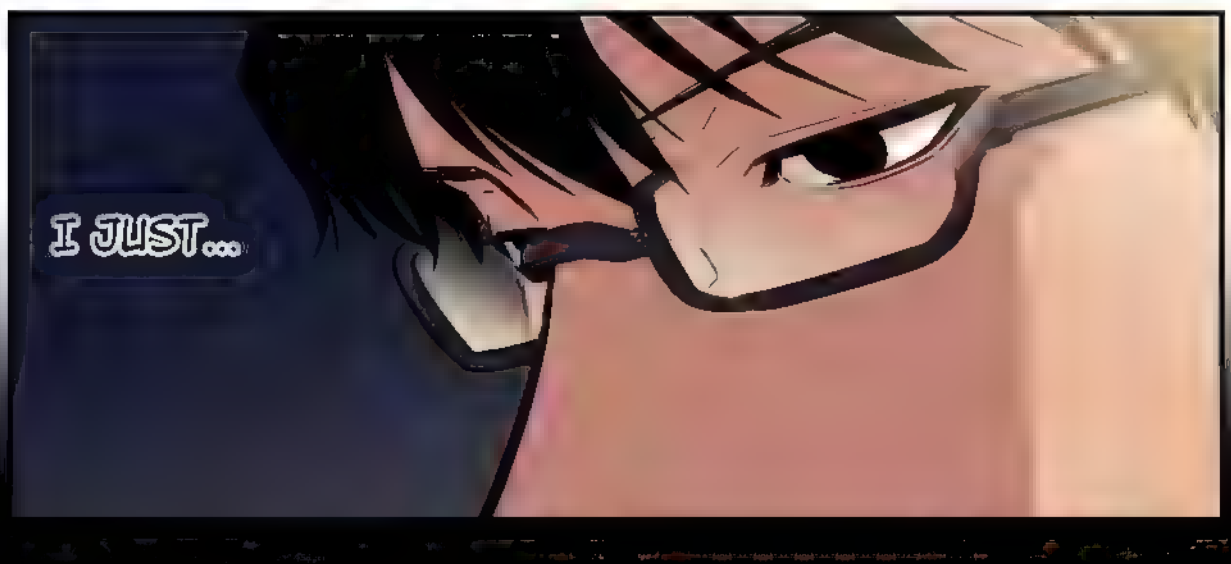
NOW, GO INSIDE AND TRY IT ON.

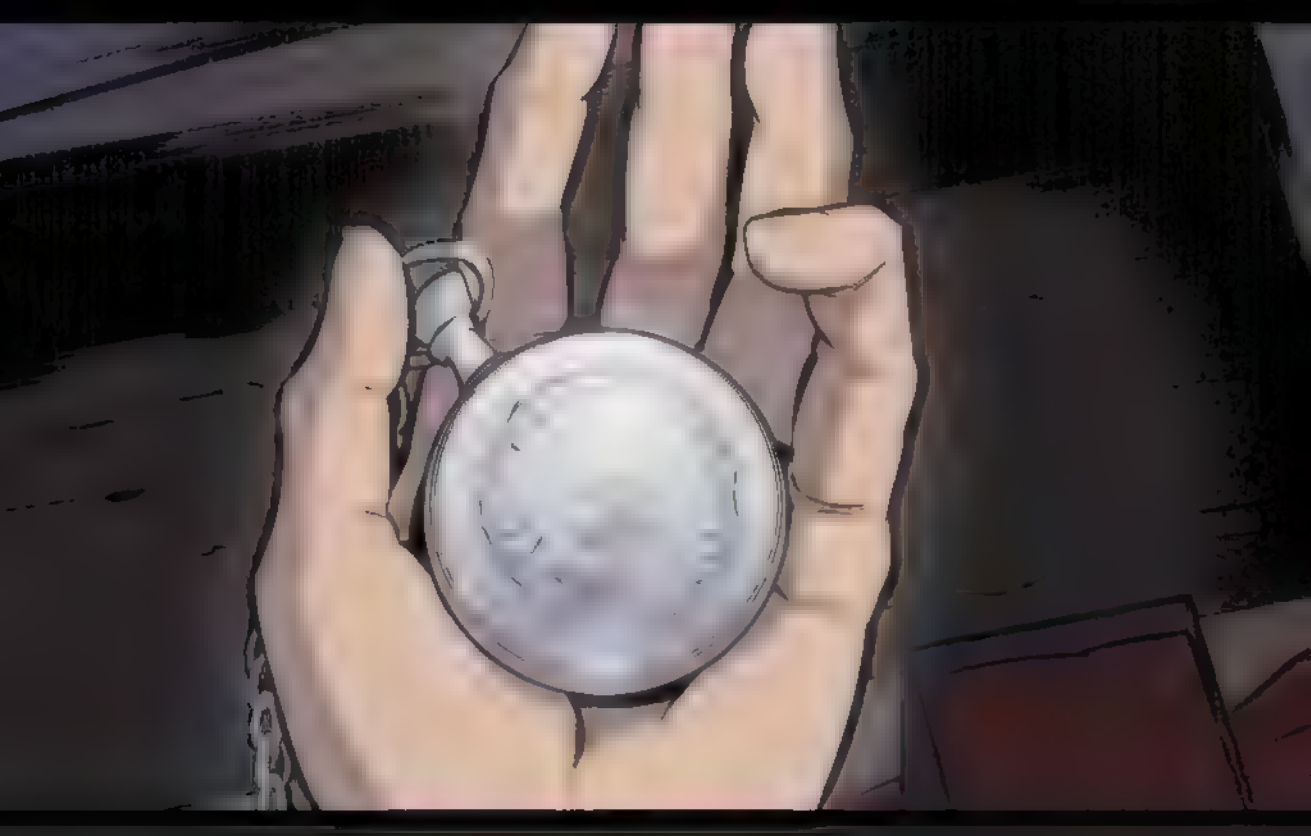
NUDGE

CLICK

WHAT IN THE WORLD'S GOING ON...

I DIDN'T WANT TO BE LIKE THIS...





...THOUGHT IT COULD BE MY LAST CHANCE TO FIND OUT ABOUT THAT DESIGN'S OWNER...

BUT THIS ISN'T WHAT I IMAGINED...

YEAH, DON'T LET ANYONE IN.

CLICK

CLICK

ONE, HOW ARE THE...

AH!! YOU WEREN'T DONE YET?!

THUMP

NICE TIMING. WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?!

ARE YOU TRYING TO PASS ME OFF AS AN ART??

FLING

THERE'S NO OTHER WAY.

IF YOU WANT TO LOOK LIKE YOU BELONG THERE, YOU'LL NEED TO PRETEND TO BE AN ART...

BRUSH!

COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU NEVER TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES IN FRONT OF ME...

IT'S ALWAYS ME...

OBVIOUSLY.

STARE

THAT'S NOT OBVIOUS!

GRAB

S-SOMETIMES...

I WANT TO...

WHAT...

GRAB

!

WOOSH

AH...!!

THUD

I WAS MISTAKEN.

I WAS THE ONE THAT WAS LACKING.

DOES BRINGING ME HERE...

...AWAKEN THE VAMPIRE INSTINCTS WITHIN YOU?

...I'LL MAKE SURE THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN...

CLENCH

...BY TEACHING YOU...

...OBEDIENCE.

To be continued!

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